



California AfterSchool Partnership

The California Department of Education, The Foundation Consortium and the Governor's Office of the Secretary for Education

Public-Private Partnership

Building Capacity for After School Programs in California

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Fourteen After School Programs Selected to Participate in Statewide Project

-- Intensive Effort to Groom Successful Programs as "Learning Hubs" --

Sacramento, CA – The California AfterSchool Partnership today announced the selection of fourteen outstanding after school programs in the state to participate in its Regional Learning Center project. Funded by the California Department of Education and the Foundation Consortium, the three-year project aims to further strengthen select programs so that they can provide immediate and ongoing assistance to the rapidly increasing number of after school programs statewide.

California has increased its funding for after school programs from \$3.6 million in 1998 to \$117 million in 2001-2002. Combined with federal 21st Century Community Learning Centers, California's total investment will soon exceed \$337 million annually.

"California has some of our nation's finest after school programs, and is at the forefront of the national after school movement," said Delaine Eastin, Superintendent of Public Instruction and one of the founding members of the California AfterSchool Partnership. "The enhancements that this project brings will strengthen already solid programs so that they serve as important models for other after school programs throughout the state."

Each of the fourteen programs selected for the Regional Learning Center project will receive support from the California AfterSchool Partnership, including in-depth training, technical assistance, and mentorship to strengthen program quality and sustainability and to prepare them to work effectively with other programs. As part of this process, programs chosen for the project will also participate in a statewide learning community with other outstanding programs where they will share successful strategies and develop new approaches to after school program development and implementation. Ultimately, each of the fourteen programs is expected to be certified as an After School Regional Learning Center and function as a learning hub for its region.

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Programs that have been chosen to participate in the Regional Learning Center Project include: Anaheim Achieves, Anaheim; CAPS (Creative After School Program for Success), San Bernardino; Kids 1st, Crescent City; Greenfield After School SUCCESS Program, Bakersfield; HEART, Visalia; LA's BEST, Los Angeles; RAP (Realizing Amazing Potential) Before and After School Program, Lawndale; San Diego "6 to 6," San Diego; Pasadena LEARNS, Pasadena; REACH (Recreation Enrichment and Academic Core Help), Firebaugh; Redding Elementary School District After School Program, Redding; Sacramento START, Sacramento; San Francisco ExCEL, San Francisco; and "Under the Big Top" After School Program, Monterey/Seaside.

The California AfterSchool Partnership is an initiative of the California Department of Education; the Foundation Consortium, an alliance of 16 private foundations; and the Governor's Office of the Secretary for Education. Founded in 1999, its purpose is to build capacity for after school programs throughout California.

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